

JUN 24 2009

Application No. 10/553,852
Amendment dated June 24, 2009
Reply to Office Action of March 24, 2009

2

Docket No.: 64343NAT(70403)

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application.

1-44. (cancelled)

45. (Previously presented) A cleaning device for cleaning a medical instrument including: a fabric, wipe, or sponge impregnated with a composition comprising at least one enzyme, a surfactant and a humectant.

46. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~451~~ further including a disinfectant compatible with said at least one enzyme.

47. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~451~~ wherein the at least one enzyme is selected from protease, alcalase, cellulase, lipolase, and combinations thereof.

48. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~473~~ wherein the enzyme is present as a solution or a suspension in an amount of 5 to 25 %w/w of the composition.

49. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~484~~ wherein the enzyme is present as a solution or a suspension in an amount of 10 to 20 %w/w of the composition.

50. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~451~~ wherein the humectant is selected from calcium chloride, sodium chloride, glycerine, borax, ethylene glycol, propylene glycol and combinations thereof.

51. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~506~~ comprising glycerine as a humectant.

52. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~451~~ wherein the humectant is present in an amount to ensure that sufficient water is absorbed to reduce any hazard which would arise from use of the enzyme in dry form.

53. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~451~~ wherein the humectant is present in an amount to maintain activity of the enzyme during storage.

54. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~539~~ wherein the humectant is present in the composition in an amount of 1 to 10 %w/w of the composition.

55. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~5410~~ wherein the humectant is present in the composition in an amount of 4 to 7 %w/w of the composition.

Application No. 10/553,852
Amendment dated June 24, 2009
Reply to Office Action of March 24, 2009

3

Docket No.: 64343NAT(70403)

56. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~451~~ wherein the surfactant includes at least one non-ionic surfactant.
57. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~5612~~ wherein the non-ionic surfactant is present in the composition in an amount of 5 to 45 %w/w.
58. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according claim ~~451~~ wherein the surfactant is a synthetic or natural alcohol ethoxylate.
59. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~451~~ wherein the surfactant includes at least 10 one anionic surfactant.
60. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~5915~~ wherein the anionic surfactant is present in the composition in an amount of 5 to 15 %w/w.
61. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~5915~~ wherein the anionic surfactant is a hydrocarbon sulphonate or sulphate.
62. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~451~~ wherein the total surfactant in the composition is in an amount of 15 to 45% w/w.
63. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~451~~ further including a preservative.
64. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~451~~ adapted to
- i) remove at least a portion of externally adherent soiling on a surgical instrument by mechanical wiping; and
 - ii) to redistribute any remaining external soiling such that it is distributed as a film of thinner and more uniform thickness than on the unwiped instrument.
65. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~451~~ adapted for use in cleaning an exterior tubular surface of a surgical instrument.
66. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~451~~ adapted for use in cleaning an exterior tubular surface of an endoscope.
67. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~451~~ adapted to contact a substantial arc of an external circumference of a tubular portion of the instrument.
68. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~6723~~ adapted to engage an arc of about 360 degrees of an external circumference of a tubular portion of the instrument and which is resiliently deformable in a radial direction.

Application No. 10/553,852
Amendment dated June 24, 2009
Reply to Office Action of March 24, 2009

4

Docket No.: 64343NAT(70403)

69. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~451~~ adapted to slide axially along the length of a tubular portion of the instrument so as to wipe the surface thereof.

70. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~451~~ fabricated from hydrophilic fibres.

71. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~451~~ fabricated from polymeric material.

72. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~451~~ composed of viscose fibres and polypropylene fibres.

73. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~7228~~ wherein the viscose fibres and polypropylene fibres form a homogeneous mixture tangled by a needling technique to form a low density web with substantially no free fly away fibres.

74. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~451~~ in the form of a wipe, or roll of wipes, fabricated from a polymeric foam, textile, paper or hybrid material.

75. (Currently amended) A cleaning device for cleaning a medical instrument consisting in a fabric, wipe or sponge impregnated with a hygroscopic enzyme cleaning formulation containing one or more enzymes, one or more surfactants and an enzyme stabilising system.

76. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~451~~ for use in cleaning an exterior surface of a tubular portion of an endoscope in need of said cleaning, said device including a pad having a groove extending from one end of the pad to an opposite end and adapted resiliently to engage the exterior surface of the tubular portion of the endoscope exterior surface, the pad being adapted alone or with a complementary pad to substantially encircle the exterior surface of the tubular portion and being resiliently deformable so as to engage the exterior surface of the encircled portion, whereby to uniformly wipe said exterior surface as the device is slid longitudinally along the endoscope tube.

77. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~7632~~ wherein the pad is formed of a needle felt and has two spaced apart parallel grooves each of arcuate cross-section which may be folded into alignment on opposite sides of a tubular axis to form a tubular tunnel resiliently engaging the exterior surface of a tubular portion of an endoscope about its circumference.

Application No. 10/553,852
Amendment dated June 24, 2009
Reply to Office Action of March 24, 2009

5

Docket No.: 64343NAT(70403)

78. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~7733~~ which may be folded about a longitudinal fold seam.

79. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~451~~ fabricated from a non-woven fabric and impregnated with one or more enzymes, one or more surfactants and at least one humectant.

80. (Currently amended) A cleaning device according to claim ~~7935~~ fabricated from a non-woven fabric and impregnated with a plurality of enzymes, a plurality of surfactants and at least one humectant.

81. (Previously presented) A package containing a cleaning device for cleaning a surgical instrument, said cleaning device including at least one single use fabric, wipe or sponge impregnated with an enzyme, a surfactant, and a humectant.

82. (Currently amended) A package according to claim ~~8137~~ wherein the package is moisture permeable

83. (Previously presented) A method of cleaning the exterior surface of a surgical instrument in need thereof, said method including the steps of

(1) wiping the exterior surface, wherein a resilient pad or a wipe is pressed against an exterior surface of the surgical instrument and slid longitudinally to mechanically remove gross soiling and at the same time redistribute any residue remaining to a substantially uniform thickness, while at the same time

(2) subjecting the surface to treatment with an enzyme and a surfactant.

84. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~8339~~ wherein a resilient pad or wipe is held around a tubular portion of the surgical instrument in a manner which exerts a force acting radially towards an axis of the tubular portion of the surgical instrument.

85. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~8440~~ wherein the residue is redistributed to a more uniform thickness about a circumference and a length of the tubular portion of the surgical instrument.